

The regular session meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held June 17, 2021, Via Teleconference. Regular Session Board meeting came to order at 4:02 p.m.

Staff Present

Oluremi Dean, Acting Executive Director
Bethan Haaga, AAG Board Counsel
Zoann Mouzone, Administrative Specialist III
Lillian Reese, Legislative Coordinator
Monica Wright, Office Secretary III
Kimberly Link, Board Liaison
David Pumphery, Investigator

Present Members

Ms. Carolyn Stine, SLP Chair
Dr. Tinita Kearney SLP Vice-Chair
Mr. Richard Brisbane, HAD
Mr. John Rouse, CON
Dr. Jennifer Mertes, AUD
Dr. Tam Nguyen, MD
Dr. Barbara McLendon, AUD
Ms. Ellen Stein, CON
Mr. James Sciabarrasi, HAD
Ms. Jill Silverman, SLP
Dr. Carrie Nieman, MD

Visitors--none

Absent Members

Mr. Kim Keller, HAD
Dr. Stacey Samuels-Cole, AUD

Agenda Review and Approval

Dr. Jennifer Mertes made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. James Sciabarrasi seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Review and Approval of the Minutes

Dr. Tinita Kearney made a motion to approve minutes with amendments. Ms. Jill Silverman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Regulatory Review

Telehealth Executive Order – Mrs. Oluremi Dean, Acting Executive Director, announced that the Telehealth order issued on May 8, 2020 will cease to be effective and will be rescinded on August 15, 2021. The order allowed continuity of care for those displaced to Maryland due to the pandemic. Out-of-State licensees were granted privileges in MD to provide telehealth services to clients that they had a pre-existing relationship with prior to the pandemic and moving to Maryland. An email blast will be sent out to all licensees. The executive order will get posted on our website.

Telehealth Regulations-Mrs. Oluremi Dean stated that the telehealth regulations proposal submitted by the Board received a revision request from the Governor's office. The first thing was to add language that referenced the Health Occupations Article 1-1001. The notation would define the meaning of telehealth. We would need to amend our proposed regulations to strike the language defining telehealth. Dr. Tinita Kearney made a motion to approve the proposed amendments

contingent upon the approval of the Governor's office. Dr. Jennifer Mertes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Regulations Draft-clean/addition of Audiology Assistants-

Ms. Stine announced the recommended amendments to the Boards Collection of fees 10.41.01 Audiology Assistants (AAs) applications will be \$100, Music Therapists (MTs) \$150 and ASLP-IC privileges \$100. Dr. Tinita Kearney announced the recommended amendments to add AAs and MTs to 10.41.02 Code of Ethics. Dr. Kearney also announced the recommended amendments to 10.41.03 Continuing Education guidelines. The proposed regulations amendments will modify the number of CEU credits awarded for course work, authors, scientific presentations and pro bono work. Mr. Sciabarrasi announced the recommended amendments for 10.41.08 Hearing Aid Dispensing. The proposed regulation amendments will clarify that the minimum months of training is 6 months with 20 hours per month.

Board Chair Report- Ms. Carolyn Stine, SLP- The Board has made a lot of progress this year. There is still a lot more that needs to be done. We need to prioritize more to get the most important things done first. Ms. Stine also stated that she would like to improve our communication with other Maryland Associations and also with licensees. Ms. Carolyn Stine thanked Dr. Jennifer Mertes for all her hard work as Board Chair.

Board Counsel report-None

Executive Director's Report-Mrs. Oluremi Dean also thanked Dr. Jennifer Mertes and Mr. John Rouse for their service. Mrs. Dean also wanted to remind the public that June 30th is the cut off for renewing their license. Licensees will have to apply for reinstatement after the deadline. We received notice that the Governor has a new building downtown and that MDH will be moving downtown. He has made an offer for the Board to move downtown. Mrs. Dean stated that Ms. Kim Link has been doing some research to gather as much information as she could related to parking etc. Ms. Link gave a brief summary of the information she has obtained about the move downtown.

Budget Report – Mrs. Oluremi Dean-

As of the end of May, our current balance is \$423,346.23.

License Coordinator Update-Ms. Zoann Mouzone

Ms. Mouzone reported a total of 4,442 SLP active licensees, 285 SLP-LL, 77 SLPA-Full, 14 SLPA-LL, 544 AUD, 0 AUD-LL, 117 HAD-Full, 28 HAD-LL. For the 2020 renewal there was a total of 235 AUD processed, 1,868 SLP processed, and 41 SLP-A processed, giving a total of 2,144 that were processed. For the 2021 renewal, there was a total of 24 AUD non-renewed, 232 SLP non-renewed and 22 SLP-A non-renewed. For the 2021 HAD renewal, there was a total of 95 HAD renewed and a total of 19 HAD non-renewed. For the 2021 renewal, there was a total 233 AUD renewed, 1848 SLP renewed, and 5 SLP-A renewed, giving a total of 2,086. For licensee applications for Board approval there are a total of 94 applications for Board approval.

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Review and Approval for Licensee

Dr. Mertes made a motion to approve the licenses approved by Board office staff. Mr. Rouse seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Review for Committee List of CEU'S for Board Approval

Dr. Mertes made a motion to approve the CEU's list that was approved by the CEU committee. Dr. Tinita Kearney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Correspondence & F.Y.I

NONE

Next Board Meeting- July 15, 2021

Adjournment

Dr. Mertes made a motion to adjourn the regular session Board meeting. Mr. James Sciabarrasi seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The regular session meeting ended at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Carolyn Stine, MHS, MS CCC-SLP
Chair